



# Corrections News

*The Alabama Department of Corrections*  
[www.doc.alabama.gov](http://www.doc.alabama.gov)

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## ADOC CERT TEAM MOBILE COMMAND UNIT

The Alabama Department of Homeland Security awarded \$50,000.00 to the Alabama Department of Corrections to assist the ADOC in its emergency response plan. The ADOC utilized these funds by purchasing a prime mover and trailer to serve the Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT). The equipment will serve as the CERT mobile command unit and house additional emergency response equipment. With the assistance provided by the Homeland Security grant, the ADOC CERT will be ready to respond to a catastrophic event in a more efficient manner.



Pictured Left to Right. Kendrick Boyd, Elmore CERT. Lt. Otis Smith, Montgomery Women's Facility CERT Commander. Warden III Grantt Culliver, Holman Correctional Facility. Robert Thomas, U.S. Homeland Security. Danterrio Scullock, Draper CERT. Anthony Barber, Bullock CERT



**Need Cash? \$500 Bonus paid for recruiting correctional officers as part of the Employee Incentive Program. Details on the DOCnet.**

## Phillip Tutor: Riley to Churches — Help Us

05-23-2008 – The Anniston Star

Last summer, Bob Riley took time out from governing our fair state and dipped his toe in the turbulent pool that is the mixture of politics and religion. He's an Ashland boy, a good Baptist from Clay County, which would lead some to believe the governor should have known better. Riley, you may recall, prayed for rain. It rained. Which didn't end Alabama's dreadful drought, but it did cement his reputation as a Southern governor unafraid of calling out — or up — to a higher power in time of need. If a successful, admired, two-term politician in the Bible Belt couldn't place his state's wishes in the hands of God, who could?

Now Riley's turning to the state's churches for assistance. Alabama releases more than 10,000 inmates from its state prisons each year. That's roughly the entire student population of Jacksonville State. And the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, the agency charged with providing re-entry aid to inmates, can't do the job. Money's tight; services have been hacked. It's an awful scenario. Which means thousands of former inmates are released into Alabama society without the transitional help they need to readjust to lives of freedom. Help with health care? With housing? How about clothing? Advice on getting that first post-prison job? No, no, no and no. To all of it. Thus, Riley's concept is born from a simple, but obvious, essential. The governor wants the state's churches — the moral conscience of much of Alabama — to open their doors and help former inmates make the conversion from prisoner to free resident. He wants churches, with oversight (but not money) from the state's new Community Partnership for Recovery and Re-entry, to help former inmates learn how to make sound financial decisions, find a place to rest their head, and earn an honest wage. Basically, how to become productive, law-abiding citizens. Riley's not asking churches merely to help former inmates. He's asking Alabama's churches to reach out to them and commit a part of their ministry to assisting those the state previously has locked up. To take their ministry to a place where many Alabama churches haven't gone. Praying for rain was less controversial.

Say this much for Riley: The man's got gumption. He often circles the globe recruiting international industry to the state; he somehow withstood the bad PR of his Amendment One proposal during his first gubernatorial campaign; and now he is donning the figurative robe as Alabama's religious chief. Not only can he offer Goat Hill vetoes, he can request heavenly assistance from the state's houses of worship. The real issue, of course, isn't Riley's challenge. It's Alabama's churches.

Will they respond to the governor's call to action? Will they expand their ministries and help former inmates return to society? Will Alabama's churches — those black and white, those Baptist and Methodist and Episcopalian and all the rest — see this as a priority? Clearly, they should. Recidivism rates are extremely high among U.S. inmates, and those who receive no counseling, transitional assistance or societal help are likely to again take up residence in a prison cell. That's a harsh, well-known fact. Those who do get some sort of helping hand when they're released — simple, basic guidance, in some cases — have an easier time regaining a sound foothold in the world. When that happens, everyone wins. Which is at the heart of Riley's plan: If Alabama's churches can help cash-strapped Alabama and its released inmates, then who loses? No one.

Riley's request may be simple, but it's not a simplistic issue. Churches all across Alabama proudly trumpet their mission and outreach programs, as they should. Some send teams overseas to work on orphanages and aid the infirm. Others build houses for the needy in the U.S. And a great number of our state's churches do something — big or small — to feed or clothe the poor in their own towns. The examples are countless. But reaching out to those who've been locked up isn't the same as sending a mission team to South America or delivering meals to shut-ins. It's not a sexy assignment. For many, Alabama's former inmates will always carry the stigma of incarceration; that's a fact of life earned by those convicted. And not everyone in Alabama's church communities will be able to shelve their prejudices toward those who've spent time behind bars. Nevertheless, Riley's program will depend on churches' willingness to remove any preconceived notions and offer assistance to people who so obviously can use it. It's a quintessential example of a mission to help those in need. But without that willingness, the plan will fail.

Somehow, for some reason, I have faith that this strategy will succeed. Why? Don't know. How? Not sure. That's what faith is. Even if you disagree with Riley's politics, it's hard to go against a man with such a track record in matters of divine intervention. I doubt Alabama's churches can tell this governor no.

## The Hole Keeps Growing

Tuesday, April 29, 2008 Mobile Register editorial

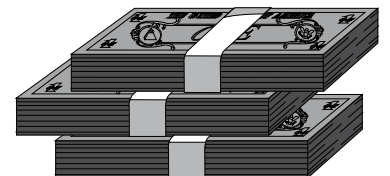
THE ALABAMA prison system's success in filling nearly all of a \$30 million hole in this year's budget loses a bit of its luster in the face of an even bigger shortfall next year. Corrections Commissioner Richard Allen warns that to meet the higher costs of incarceration next year, the state needs to inject another \$34 million into the system on top of the \$343 million already budgeted.

Gov. Bob Riley is asking legislators to give the system another \$15 million, but even that won't be enough to meet the bills. To his credit, Mr. Allen has been on a budget-balancing crusade over the past year, cutting back overtime, selling more than half of the system's \$30 million in land and property it doesn't need, closing down inmate businesses that were losing money, and bringing back to Alabama some of the prisoners who were being held under contract in Louisiana facilities.

The system also started charging other state departments for inmate labor, and has found other ways to increase revenue. But the savings and the generation of additional income still left the system \$3 million short of erasing the \$30 million deficit. Legislators should try to find funds to fill the gap. Problem is, the savings won't correct the funding shortfalls that continue to hamper the system with too few guards and too many prisoners. Even worse, the budget shortfall doesn't take into account the \$90 million in capital repairs needed to bring prison facilities up to code.

Alabama incarcerates more than 24,800 people in facilities built to hold fewer than 14,000. Another 5,000 or so convicts are assigned to work-release and other programs outside the prison walls. The truth is, Alabama doesn't provide funding to fully staff the penitentiaries. The inmate-to-guard ratio of 10 to 1 in Alabama is twice the national average.

Mr. Allen wanted the state to hire another 400 correctional officers this year and give all officers a 10 percent raise. But that probably won't happen. Granted, when revenue shortfalls prevent legislators from fully funding other public services, as they have, it wouldn't be right to increase funding to prisons. All state programs should have to share in the funding shortage. Unfortunately, for now corrections will have to keep tightening its belt until revenues pick back up. Then, legislators would be remiss not to accommodate the increased needs of the system.



## **“Bridging the Gap from Corrections to the Community” Re-Entry and Transitional Services Available for Soon To Be Released Offenders**

During the month of April, thirty-five Alabama Department of Corrections staff participated in a series of ongoing training's on implementing Re-Entry and Transitional Services to inmates who are soon to be released back into the community. Information was provided on the institutional Pre Release Programs, Accessing State Agency and Community Resources, Applying to Halfway Houses and Transitional Programs and Providing Referral Linkages to Employment and Career Resources. **For additional information on how to access these resources please contact the “Institutional Re-Entry Designee”.**

On Thursday, April 17, 2008, representatives from seven halfway houses participated in a panel discussion on reentry and transitional services. The panel discussion was a component of the ongoing Re-Entry trainings held at the Criminal Justice Center in Montgomery. Information was provided on eligibility criteria, application process, program fees, termination procedure, rules for participation, program services and community partnerships. If you are within 60 days of your release and would like to obtain additional information on these programs please contact your Institutional Designee.



Hope House (males) – **Tuscaloosa**

New Life Women's Center (females) – **Gadsden**

The Dannon Project (males and females) – **Birmingham**

The Lovelady Center (females) – **Birmingham**

The WINNERS Program (females) – **Mobile**

Renaissance House (males) – **Montgomery**

Salvation Army (males and females) – **Montgomery**

### **Meet Your Re-Entry Designee's**

*For more information on Re-Entry and Transitional Services, please contact your respective  
Institutional / Work Release Designee.*

#### **Institutions**

*Ms. Pearson and Mr. Earnshaw – **Fountain / J.O. Davis**  
 Ms. Wilson – **Easterling**  
 Mr. Woods – **Ventress**  
 Ms Perry and Ms. Wilson – **Bullock County**  
 Dr. Thompkins – **Draper**  
 Ms. McQueen and Mr. Thomas - **Elmore**  
 Ms. Haynes – **Tutwiler**  
 Mr. Holbrook – **Holman**  
 Mr. Bivins – **Staton**  
 Ms. Day – **Hamilton A&I and Hamilton Work Release**  
 Dr. Allen and Mr. Rountree - **Donaldson**  
 Ms. Richardson – **Bibb County**  
 Ms. Brock – **Limestone**  
 Mr. Gandy – **Kilby**  
 Ms. Crenshaw – **Montgomery Women's Facility**  
 Mr. Douglas - **St. Clair**  
 Ms. Lewis – **Red Eagle Honor Farm***

#### **Work Release Centers and Community Work Centers**

*Lt. Sellars – **Camden**  
 Mr. Shavers – **Mobile**  
 Mr. Robitaille – **Loxley**  
 Ms. Martin and Ms. Crawford – **Frank Lee**  
 Ms. Phillips – **Alex City**  
 Ms. Moore – **Birmingham**  
 Mr. Cummings – **Decatur**  
 Sgt. Strickland/Lt. Qualls – **Elba**  
 Ms. Hand – **Childersburg Work Release**  
 Ms. Bennett / Ms. Nettles – **Atmore**  
 Ms. Allen – **State Cattle Ranch***





Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb listens as Gov. Bob Riley discusses the juvenile justice reform bill.

## New Law Reforms Juvenile Justice System

MONTGOMERY – Legislation designed to reform Alabama's juvenile justice system has been signed into law by Governor Bob Riley. The new law is designed to reduce the number of children in state custody and redirect them toward community-based programs.

"Today Alabama's juvenile justice system is flooded with low-risk children in

expensive institutions. Many of those children have never even committed a crime. As recently as two years ago at least 79 percent of children admitted to the Alabama Department of Youth Services were locked up for non-violent misbehavior," Governor Riley said. "By freeing up resources to develop community-based alternatives, the state can better serve these children who need assistance. With early intervention, we can stop their decline before they become a threat to public safety. And we can do so in a more cost-effective manner that gets better results."

The new law prohibits juvenile judges from locking up certain children – those classified as "in need of supervision" – who have committed non-criminal offenses such as truancy, running away and missing curfew. Instead, these low-risk juvenile offenders will participate in community-based programs designed to change their behavior. Incarcerating juveniles for non-criminal behavior increases the likelihood of more serious criminal behavior in the future. "Children in detention gravitate toward the worst possible role models. That's why juvenile detention centers have been referred to as 'highly effective crime schools.' Often these children return home even more likely to break the law," said Governor Riley.

Joining Governor Riley at a bill signing ceremony in the State Capitol were several judges who helped push for the legislation, including Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb, Jefferson County Family Court Judge Brian Huff, Tuscaloosa County Circuit Judge Philip Lisenby, and retired Morgan County District Court Judge David Breland. Governor Riley and Justice Cobb began their bipartisan efforts to get the bill passed when they visited the Morgan County System of Services program in January. The program allows juveniles who get into trouble to bypass the Department of Youth Services and instead participate in community-based programs. Both Governor Riley and Justice Cobb praised it as a model program the state should follow.



Gov. Riley signs the juvenile justice reform bill as legislators, judges and Alabama's chief justice look on.

## Ladora Shaner Honored as the Southeast Region's 2008 Staff Honor Roll Award Recipient!

ACI Accounting Manager LaDora Shaner was recently honored by the National Correctional Industries Association as the recipient of the Southeast Region's 2008 Staff Honor Roll Award. Ms. Shaner was selected from staff nominations submitted by nine Southeast state industry programs. She has been with the Department for 23 years, working her way up through the ranks of the Accounting Division after attending night school to obtain her college degree. In addition to her Industries' responsibilities, Ms. Shaner was a key coordinator and trainer for the Department's implementation of the Labor Management System. She also assisted with ADOC's transition over to the AFNS accounting system by designing security profiles and providing resource services. Ms. Shaner has also sat on several committees involved developing specifications for a new financial management application for the State. Ms. Shaner was presented her award at the National Correctional Industries Association's 2008 Training Conference in Albuquerque. Congratulations LaDora!



ACI Accounting Manager LaDora Shaner (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) is presented with the National Correctional Industries Association's Southeast Region Staff Honor Roll Award by NCIA Board Chairman Roger Baysden (left). Also pictured are NCIA Executive Director Gina Honeycutt, and NCIA President Don Guillory.

## ALABAMA VOICES: Growing in prison

By Randy Flowers

Is there life after prison? Of course there is, but unless we can find answers to the issue of recidivism, that life for many inmates will include at least one more trip to "the back gate."

How can we as a society not be able to solve the problems that plague crime and punishment as we know it? During election years and financial crisis, the Department of Corrections is quickly brought to the attention of constituents as an example of a failed government. A government that not only has failed to solve the issues of rising crime, but presumably has failed in its efforts to effectively deal with offenders as well.

Political platforms are built on the promises of reform and restructuring, buildings and budgets, strong laws and even stronger punishments, and we are all too often inundated with sound bites from well-meaning public servants who serve to inflame the imagination but are just not realistic.

One lesson we have definitely learned is that ignoring the problem will not make it go away. It's painfully obvious that the less attention we give to the problem, the more problems it creates. We have also learned that problems are not solved by simply throwing money at them.

History has proved that a philosophy such as this tends only to support the problem, not solve it. The problems we face and the solutions they demand are much more fundamental and attainable than any political philosophy or rhetoric could ever promise.

These issues speak to the very heart of who we are as a people and who we aspire to be as a community. The solutions to ending parent-child incarceration and "revolving door" recidivism are within our grasp if we can only muster the courage to embrace them.

Alabama Volunteers in Corrections was established in the mid-1980s to help address these issues. It was the charge of this group to provide resources and support networks for families and communities of the men and women who are incarcerated in Alabama state prisons. However, due to funding cuts, public sentiment and political tide, AVIC has not been able to maintain its positions within our communities and has thus been in decline for several years.

However, we at the Kilby Alabama Volunteers in Corrections, the Kilby chapter of AVIC (one of the last remaining), are committed to these solutions within the prison walls as well as the communities to which we will return. It is our goal to raise public awareness and community support so that the resources needed to address these difficult issues may once again be readily available.

It is the responsibility of those of us confined within the Department of Corrections who seek a future and a hope within our communities to be the change that we want to see in the world. It is our responsibility to utilize the tools we have been provided to end the cycle of incarceration that plagues so many.

KAVIC is a volunteer organization sanctioned by the DOC for inmates, by inmates, who seek to promote these values within our community. It is the purpose of KAVIC, through the support of the Kilby administrative staff, our sponsor, Mr. Carl Nowell, and a structured set of organizational bylaws, to provide life enrichment opportunities for the residents of Kilby's inmate population. We accomplish this through various educational, spiritual and community initiatives that promote positive growth.

It is the philosophy of KAVIC that true recovery or change can only be achieved when three distinct elements are present: persons have to know who they are as individuals in relation to their own sets of values (who do I say I am?), persons must understand who they are in relation to God (who does God say I am?) and persons must understand who they are in relation to their community (who does my community say I am?).

We believe when all three of these elements are addressed, we can then see our community in proper context and how it is affected by our choices. Therein lies the incentive for change.

While it is impossible for us as an organization to teach someone to know themselves or to seek God as each of us understands him, we can provide a community with the prison setting -- a community that provides support, encouragement, hope and brotherhood, a community that loves without prejudice, helps without reservation and gives without expectation.

I would never have thought that such a place could exist within what most would consider one of the most violent places in the state, but it does. And it is within this community that we have witnessed hope reborn, families restored and lives reformed.

KAVIC is currently building a statewide database of civic and faith-based organizations, recovery groups, employers and community members who share our goals and ideals, people who are willing to receive into their communities men and women who have paid their debt to the law and now seek to pay their debt to society.

The key to ending the cycle of recidivism does not end when an inmate leaves prison; that is where it truly begins.

We are seeking volunteers who are willing to work with us to extend these goals beyond the fence and help us to revitalize KAVIC.

We all share in a common vision of a safer and more secure Alabama for our children and our grandchildren, and together we can realize that vision. So we ask not for a handout, but a helping hand. If you, your organization or anyone you know believes in the ideals that have been laid out, don't hesitate.

Contact us to find out more on what you can do today to help us build a safer tomorrow. Randy Flowers is president of Kilby Alabama Volunteers in Corrections. Contact KAVIC at P.O. Box 11446, Montgomery AL 36111.





## KILBY INMATE SEWS QUILTS FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

Inmate Dallas Simmons needed a prison hobby, so he chose something he knew a little bit about, something that filled his childhood home. Quilting.

Serving a life sentence, Simmons began quilting about eight months ago and has quickly made some 50 crib size quilts that have been donated to the St. Jude Exceptional Children's Center in Montgomery.

Father Purcell Memorial Children's Center is a skilled nursing facility that provides a loving home for severely disabled children. The 58-bed facility serves as home for children who require full-time intensive care. The center is a mission of The City of St. Jude - Archdiocese of Mobile. The Center draws children from all over the United States.

"My mom did it all my life," Simmons said, referring to making quilts. "I used to have to crawl under the quilting frame to get to my bedroom or the kitchen. If she can do it, I figured I can too."

Simmons received permission to start his project roughly a year ago. Most of the batting and cloth has been donated and Simmons made a small, makeshift quilting frame. He sews each blanket by hand.

"My heart leapt for joy that people who are incarcerated are still making contributions to the community," said Sam Palomaris, of the Exceptional Children's Center. "We certainly have a need for these quilts in the winter time. It's nice to have something personalized."

Simmons is not finished with his contributions. "I am still making new ones," he said. "And, ADOC has allowed me to purchase a small sewing machine."

Father Purcell Children's Center exists to serve the nursing, medical, physical and psychosocial needs of children (infants to 18 years of age) who because of severe developmental disabilities require ongoing residential care in a skilled nursing facility. Our goal is to afford each child an experience of the fullness and goodness of life to the limits of his/her ability.

Father Purcell Memorial provides services to developmentally disabled children, their families, and the community at large without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.



## Partner Agency/ Host Site Spotlight:

*Inmates at the Bibb Correctional Facility are benefiting from the on-site Adult Education Class coordinated in partnership with Shelton State Community College. The popularity of the program is evident. In February, there were 85 students enrolled in the program, with a list of individuals still waiting to enroll.*

*The class is divided into three levels; Pre-GED, consisting of students with a reading level below the 8th grade level equivalent; Intermediate, consisting of students with a reading level of 8th and 9th grade level equivalent; and Advanced, consisting of those students whose reading level is 10th grade level equivalent or above. Each student spends at least 2.5 hours in class per day Monday through Thursday. Many students routinely achieve Functioning Level Gains and are moving toward achieving their respective goals.*

*Like all other ABE programs, the program at the Bibb facility strives toward student success. This success is paramount to not only current students' achievement of the GED, but in influencing prospective students' attitude toward enrolling and working hard within the program. In January, current students within the Advanced Level class sent a clear message to other students and prospective students when 21 of the 27 Advanced Level students who attempted the GED test passed for a 78% pass rate. This is extremely encouraging to not only the students, but to the staff as well.*

*The Bibb Correctional Facility is under the direction of Warden Cheryl Price. Warden Price completed her undergraduate studies at Huntingdon College located in Montgomery, Alabama and is continuing her educational studies. Warden Price has dedicated more than twenty-five years to the Alabama Department of Corrections. While serving the past ten years at the Bibb facility, she has continued a primary objective at Bibb which is to provide offenders with educational, substance abuse treatment and various self-improvement programs to enhance their productive return to society. When asked to comment on the College's Adult Education class at the facility, Warden Price said, "The ABE classes at Bibb meet Monday through Thursday from 7:30AM until 8:00PM. We are proud of our instructors, Lisa Lightsey and Evon Blake. They have added so much to our program."*

# PUBLIC OFFICIALS SAY THANK YOU

May 8, 2008

Warden Grantt Culliver  
Holman Correctional Facility  
Holman 3700  
Atmore, Alabama 36503-3700

**RE: Criminal Defense Lawyers Tour**

Dear Warden Culliver:

I want to take the opportunity to thank you for generously giving your time during our recent Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (ACDLA) tour on May 1. Although our group was small, I assure you that the reach is long within our organization of over 500 criminal defense lawyers in Alabama. Those who participated in the tour are only a small number of many, many attorneys in Alabama who are working for a positive change to preserve the Constitutional rights of all citizens and insure that those accused of crimes are afforded fair treatment and due process. I cannot begin to tell you how greatly impressed I was by the way you handled yourself, your staff and the way the prison is ran overall. Your have a significant duty and I cannot imagine the burden it places on your personal life to be responsible for the inmates, to protect the citizens of Alabama, and most importantly, the carrying out of death sentences. Regardless of your personal stance on crime and punishment, this must be an overwhelming emotional burden and I commend you for doing your best to make sure that things are handled in a humane way and that all parties involved are treated with respect.

I realize that some of our thoughts and ideas may seem out of reach and unfeasible, but I do believe that if all of us in the justice system were to sit down and discuss positive ways to change things, we could surely come up with better solutions. I agree with your stance on restorative justice and plan to argue to my judges and to others who are interested the positive effects you are creating with your honor dorm. I am a strong believer in reformation and restoration versus incarceration. I continue to look for better alternatives within my own community to assist those with drug problems rather than incarcerating them, thereby increasing their numbers and lessening the amount of money they have to rectify the problems within the system including those specific to Holman. I do believe things like art therapy, more honor dorms, and other "out of the box" thinking and techniques will cause the recidivism rate to decrease and perhaps even trickle down into the general public thereby causing the crime rates to fall.

I wanted to get this letter out to you ASAP to thank you for your generosity and time. However, you should expect to see a shipment in the near future of those bulbs we discussed and I know that you will have them planted on the grounds. Perhaps in a nice spot where the inmates can see them!

Sincerely,

*Kesa M. Johnston*

Kesa M. Johnston

KMJ/sla



Dear Warden Hetzel and Capt. Tew:

Last month the staff at Donaldson took the time to provide yet another extraordinary tour of your facility for my students. I want to thank both of you for allowing these kinds of tours, given the under-staffing at Donaldson. I know these tours consume time and energy which on any other day are directed to greater concerns. I thank you both for arranging the details and permitting the interaction with both residents and officers.

I want to thank also officers Kerry Brewer and Gary Holder, both of whom conducted the tour last month. Their knowledge of institutional facts and willingness to present the facility clearly affected the students' sense of reality and knowledge about public policy in the State of Alabama. Further, these two officers presented a most positive image, to these young students, as to what it means to be public servants in conditions which would challenge the professionalism of most individuals in the free-world. Because of officers Brewer and Holder, coupled with meeting representatives of V.O.C.A.L., several are now considering careers in the area of corrections.

I would greatly appreciate it if a copy of this e-mail could be given to officers Brewer and Holder, and perhaps be placed in their respective personnel files. I thank them for the time they invested in explaining Donaldson as well as answering all the questions posed to them.

I want to thank everyone at Donaldson -- and indeed, the Alabama Department of Corrections -- for allowing me to gain over the past several years a better understanding of this agency and its most difficult task. I learn from you at each encounter, and I greatly appreciate having that opportunity.

Very best,

*James D. Slack.*

James D. Slack, Ph.D., Professor  
Master of Public Administration Program  
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The University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Birmingham, Alabama 35294

299 Kervin Drive  
Troy, Alabama  
36081  
April 30, 2008

Easterling Correctional Facility  
200 Wallace Drive  
Clio, Alabama 36017

Dear Warden Boyd:

I am writing with regard to Officer Simmons and the talk he gave in my class recently. I teach Career Skills at Pike Liberal Arts School in Troy. The ninth grade students were each asked to have a speaker come and share his/her career with them. Dalton Simmons asked his dad to speak. He did and came back for a second time a few weeks later.

The first time Officer Simmons spoke, he primarily covered his job each day, along with life in the prison system. Of course, the students listened to the stories he told with a great deal of interest. We have had some interesting speakers this year, but he is the only person the class asked to come back so they could hear more. The second time Officer Simmons spoke, he talked to the students from a different perspective. He was trying to help them see how easily a person could slip onto the wrong path in life. Again, he held their undivided attention.

My senior Anatomy class follows the career skills class each day, and I asked Officer Simmons if he could speak with them as well. He talked with the seniors on a different level than the freshmen, and painted a picture of prison which took any glamour from being incarcerated. My youngest son was in the class, and discussed it with his brothers as soon as he got home.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that in a small setting of about 25 students, as I have with my classes, the talk that Officer Simmons gave was received with open ears and dwelled on by a lot of teenagers. We have good boys and girls at Pike Liberal Arts School, but he was able to impress on them how easily "good" boys and girls can be in trouble.

I appreciate his willingness to speak and the willingness of the correctional system to allow him to speak. Thank you for the opportunity. We hope he will be able to return next year. I felt it was teaching time well spent

Sincerely,

*Tamara Stephens*

Tamara H. Stephens



## VIPASSANA PASS AWARD

In 2002, ADOC started conducting Vipassana courses at Donaldson CF. Vipassana is a 10-day structured program designed to enhance coping skills and foster responsible living through the use of meditation techniques. Since 2002, we have conducted 6 courses with 130 inmate participants. To assess treatment effectiveness, we conducted pre and post testing on the courses. The graduate psychology department at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa generated testing results. The results indicated that inmates were less angry and better able to control the outward expression of angry feelings. A 5-year follow-up on group participants indicated a 20% reduction in disciplinary actions.

The program has been supported by the Lionheart Foundation in Boston, MA. Over the course of 5 years, sufficient filming and interviews were collected to produce a documentary film. The film entitled "The Dhamma Brothers" previewed in 2007 and has won film festival awards at Woods Hole Film Festival in MA and Green Mountain Film Festival in Montpelier, VT. The program has been featured in a variety of articles ranging from Corrections.com to the New York Times. The film will premiere in selected theaters across the country beginning April 11 in New York City.

Most recently, the film won The National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) 2007 PASS Award. The PASS Awards (Prevention for a Safer Society) is the only national recognition of print and broadcast journalists, TV news and feature reporters, producers, and writers, and those in film and literature who try to focus America's attention on our criminal justice system, juvenile justice system, and child welfare systems in a thoughtful and considerate manner.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency is a nonprofit organization that promotes effective, humane, fair, and economically sound solutions to family, community, and justice problems. NCCD conducts research, promotes reform initiatives, and seeks to work with individuals, public and private organizations, and the media to prevent and reduce crime and delinquency. NCCD has an international reputation for its research, training, and professional programs. The Council has also developed and promoted model legislation for juvenile and family courts, criminal sentencing, and probation and parole. These models have either informed or been included in legislation in virtually every state. Currently, NCCD is working with state governors, legislators, and the Department of Justice to demonstrate, test, and evaluate innovative alternatives to current ineffective and costly methods of combating crime. Throughout its history, NCCD has been a voice for prevention and community-based efforts to reduce the social cost of crime. NCCD has pursued its goals by working with elected officials and professionals.

The film "The Dhamma Brothers" documents the convergence of a crowded, understaffed maximum-security prison and a meditation program. A growing network of men gathered to meditate on a regular basis. Intrigued by this, Jenny Phillips, cultural anthropologist and psychotherapist, first visited Donaldson Correctional Facility in the fall of 1999. She planned to observe the meditation classes and interview the inmates. As she met with the men, she was drawn to their willingness to talk freely about themselves. Even though many of these inmates would never be released from prison, they were still looking for meaningful social and emotional change. It left her wondering if it were possible to live with a sense of inner peace and freedom within a harsh prison environment.

Dr. Phillips knew meditation addressed the issue of personal suffering and offered a simple yet powerful means for obtaining relief from that suffering. She wondered if this approach could be translated into some basic principles of treatment relevant today. Were these inmates even capable of withstanding the emotionally and physically demanding experience of a 10-day meditation course? More important, was it possible for these men, some of whom had committed horrendous crimes, to change? Jenny contacted the Vipassana Meditation Center in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, part of a worldwide network of centers dedicated to preserving meditation. After a year of planning between the prison and the Vipassana staffs, in January 2002, Donaldson Correctional Facility became the first prison in North America to hold a 10-day Vipassana retreat.

"The Dhamma Brothers" tells the dramatic story of human potential and transformation as it closely follows and documents the experiences of inmates as they enter into this arduous and intensive program. The film challenges assumptions about the very nature of prisons as places of punishment rather than rehabilitation. "The Dhamma Brothers" draws the viewer in through memorable interviews with the inmates, prison staff, inmates' families, and members of the surrounding community. In interviews immediately before the Vipassana retreat, inmates openly express fear and trepidation, wondering what they will find when they look deeply within and face the consequences of past actions and trauma. In individual interviews after the Vipassana retreat, inmates tell their tales of pain and self-discovery. During group interviews, inmates discuss their collective experiences and vow to try to maintain their sense of solidarity as Vipassana has now offered an alternative social identity based on brotherhood and spiritual development.

The program has been quite an accomplishment substantiated by positive treatment outcomes.

Continue from Page 8

### **The Pass Award**

Since 2002, the graduate forensic psychology department at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa has been conducting pre and post testing on inmates in the program. Test results indicate that inmates who participated in the program were less angry and better able to control the outward expression of angry feelings. A five year follow-up indicated that inmates who had taken the course had a 20% decrease in disciplinary action compared to their counterparts in the general prison population.

The film has won first place in several film festivals and was nationally recognized by winning the PASS AWARD from the National Commission on Crime and Delinquency. In April 2008, the film premiered in theaters across the country and has garnered positive reviews. Dr. Cavanaugh noted that Vipassana shares common experiences with “insight” meditation. While many approaches utilize cognitive-behavioral techniques; addressing thoughts and feelings, Vipassana is more fundamental; incorporating the sensation level of experience.

### **Spark Ignited at Donaldson**

THE DHAMMA BROTHERS tells a dramatic tale of human potential and transformation as it closely follows and documents the stories of 36 inmates who enter into this arduous and intensive program. It challenges assumptions about the nature of prisons as places of punishment rather than rehabilitation and raises the question: is it possible for these men, some of whom have committed horrendous crimes, to change?

Donaldson Correctional Facility holds 1,500 of the state’s most dangerous criminals. Behind high security towers and a double row of barbed wire and electrical fence, dwells a host of convicts who will never see the light of day. But for some of these men, a spark was ignited. In January 2002, Donaldson became the first maximum security prison in North America to hold an extended Vipassana retreat, an emotionally and physically demanding course of silent meditation lasting 10 days.

Film Synopsis – Balcony Releasing

### **Seeing Things As The They Are**

The question of how convicted criminals should spend their time while incarcerated is one of those evergreen issues on talk radio or in the stump speeches of get-tough politicians. Prison is punishment, some people argue, and therefore prisoners shouldn’t expect to feel hopeful about their situation. But at Donaldson where assaults are described in the documentary as a near-daily occurrence, hope appears to be a viable remedy for ceaseless violence. At least, that is, for a small group of inmates who participated in an experiment with Vipassana meditation.

Vipassana is an ancient discipline from India rediscovered by Gautama Buddha and taught by him as a form of rigorous self-observation, leading to mental and emotional freedom. How it ends up at Donaldson proves a fascinating story in itself. Hearing that Vipassana had worked in Indian prisons, Donaldson’s officials take a shot at progressiveness despite staff skepticism. Taught by a pair of optimistic, but demanding, Vipassana guides, the round-the-clock meditation regimen is no picnic. For nine days, the inmates — men who have done pretty terrible things, some facing life without parole — are required to be silent. They abstain from intoxicants and violence and assume a meditation stance for hours at a time.

Prisoners do a fine job of explaining, in a very personal way, how Vipassana (which one of the teachers says translates into “seeing things as they are”) made them understand how impulses leading to crimes are reactions to illusions. Crucially, those impulses can be controlled. Considering the film took several years to make and that participating inmates kept up group meditations, the outlook for long-term benefits is good. Most of these men will never know freedom beyond prison walls, but they have learned liberation from within.

Tom Keogh – The Seattle Times

### **Who Would Believe?**

Who would believe this Alabama prison would one day foster one of the most progressive rehabilitation programs in the world? Strange, but true. In 2002, inspired by a successful experiment in Tihar Prison, outside of New Delhi, India ( and the subject of the 1997 documentary DOING TIME, DOING VIPASSANA), Dr. Ron Cavanaugh, Director of Treatment for the Alabama Department of Corrections, decided to introduce the teaching of Vipassana, a centuries-old practice based on the teachings of Buddha known as the Dhamma into Donaldson. Hopefully, the inmates who go through the program would learn how to get in touch with the physical sensations that control behavior, recognize them for what they are, and control them. The teaching of Vipassana begins with a rigorous ten-day course of total silence and intense meditation that forbids contact with the outside world. It’s during this “residential course:” that inmates need to find the courage to face their lives, crimes, and themselves. The documentary follows the experiment at Donaldson from the arrival of the Vipassana teachers, orientation meetings, the transformation of a large prison room into a kind of monastery, and the rigorous 10-day course. The immediate results are intriguing, but they’re hardly the end of the story: the inmates must then return to the general population and to lives that had only two weeks earlier been filled with violence and crime. It’s a powerful journey, and along the way we get to know a number of Donaldson’s inmates, the crimes they committed, and how a meditation technique from the other side of the world would change their lives forever. It’s a truly inspirational piece of documentary filmmaking.

Ken Fox – TV Guide.

## DECATUR CBF/CWC'S FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT A BIG SUCCESS!

Decatur CBF/CWC's fifth annual golf tournament got underway on May 16<sup>th</sup> this year, rainy weather forced a change of date from Thursday to Friday. Thanks to the many teams able to play with the abrupt date change. As a result of these teams along with some local participation 82 golfers played in this year's event and some spectators. I wish to express my appreciation to those Wardens who permitted staff to reschedule at the last minute to be a part of the tournament as a player or helper- in particular I want to recognize Wardens David Wise, Billy Mitchem and Robert Danford for their assistance in letting staff off to assist /play. In addition I commend and appreciate all of our sponsors who sent teams to play as well despite the rescheduling.

Décor for the clubhouse this year was particularly stunning, it was again generously entirely donated by Alabama's very own creative genius DeLoain Burgess, owner of the area's finest hair salon and spa. Mr. Burgess has received accolades nationwide for his work on several venues, has been featured in virtually every national fashion magazine his artistic abilities. The tournament is fortunate to have his sponsorship of our event and his centerpieces were works of art. They consisted of wire forms and mirrored stands with fresh fruit accents topped by arranged fresh flowers and greenery-words fail to do these pieces justice. We appreciate Mr. Burgess' talent, his generosity, and his willingness to create beautiful centerpieces for our Employee Support Benefit tournament.

Hats off to the many sponsors of our tournament, they make it possible for us to have our tournament:

DELOAIN, NEW YORK, COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTERS INCORPORATED, AFLAC THE OFFICE OF GARY A. SPANRAFT AND ASSOCIATES, DECATUR MOBILE SERVICE INCORPORATED, CONTRACTOR SERVICE AND FABRICATION INC., CAVALIER HOME BUILDERS LLC, SOUTHERN ENERGY HOMES INC, CHRIS & DEBORAH OSBORNE VENDING, CLOVERLEAF OF DECATUR CHRYSLER-DODGE-JEEP, OSCO INCORPORATED, BLUE RIBBON SHOES INC., SUN HOSPITALITY COMFORT INN PRICEVILLE, DOTS DINER, GLOBAL TEL LINK, J&L SHELL MARKET, WATER BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION, LONE WOLF TRAILER COMPANY INC., MSC COMPANY, JOSEPH GUZAY, RACKING HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, GREG BARNES CONSTRUCTION, LAKELAND INDUSTRIES, PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS, REDSTONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, HALSEY GROCERY, MARK HAMMONS, PETREY, MOSS FARMS, SIMPS INCORPORATED, MSC-LINDA JOLE, CULTURED MARBLE OF CULLMAN, GERALDS FAMILY RESTAURANT, DECATUR COUNTRY CLUB.

I would be remiss in talking about our wonderful sponsors without a mention of AFLAC, office of Gary Spanraft. Mr. Spanraft, sponsored at the gold sponsorship level and had a team headed up by his district manager Rex Brooks playing in the tourney, also his office donated a very nice AFLAC themed golf basket with Titleist balls, a cooler, duck head covers, golf shirt, tees etc. that was raffled off with proceeds going to the tournament. A tent was also erected beside the tourney prize tent housing an approximate 4 foot AFLAC duck along with non playing AFLAC employees who were giving out other door prize items. Certainly the presence of the AFLAC team added some excitement to the tournament and I have never seen a duck that large before! Additionally the AFLAC golf team placed second and generously donated their cash prize back to the ADOC Employee support fund. Thanks to AFLAC office of Mr. Spanraft, District Manager Mr. Brooks, his golf team, and the rest of our great sponsors.

The menu for this year included breakfast pastries, fruit, sausage balls and a chocolate fountain with strawberries and marshmallows. Lunch consisted of bratwursts, all beef quarter pound hot dogs, hamburgers, grilled chicken, baked beans, potato salad and chips. Desserts ranged from home made banana puddings to strawberry freezes and peach cobbler-a big thank you to all DCBF staff who prepared these delicious treats at home for our tournament and those restaurants that donated!! All who partook of the food enjoyed it tremendously.

I&I investigator John Wall officiated as the witness for and Maronica Mason filmed the 100,000.00 hole in one shot taken by Mr. Terry, regrettably the shot did not go in.

A multitude of golf door prizes were awarded running the gamut from Taylor made drivers, to rescue clubs, extremely nice golf bags, gift certificates from golf shops, statewide retailers and restaurants. Staff at Decatur worked extremely hard to obtain the prizes/donations and our sponsors and donors were very generous to our cause.

All players had an opportunity to win an SUV Jeep sport vehicle by making a hole in one on the 9<sup>th</sup> hole, unfortunately no one did. Despite the windy and sometimes chilly weather, the golfers played well and our tourney concluded with the following results:

First Place Winners:	Donnie Gibson Brian Howard Brad Shelton Joey Tucker	Second Place Winners:	Rex Brooks - DONATED CASH PRIZE BACK TO TOURNEY! THANK YOU AFLAC TEAM! Scotty Lewis Keith Belich Ronnie Campbell
Third Place Winners:	Officer Bell Officer Bell Captain Holt Officer Mickens	Closest to the Pin:	Hole 15 - Jared Terry- shot for 100k hole in one Hole 3 - Scotty Lewis - set of Adams Wedges Hole 12 - Randall Dyson - won \$100.00- Congrats DCBF Officer!!
Congratulations St. Clair team!		Longest Drive:	Hole 17 - Joey Tucker- won \$100.00
Winners of following Drawing Prizes			
Alabama Golf Basket: Ike Hadley		Auburn Golf Basket: David Tully	
Alabama Ball signed by Nick Saban: Glenda Ross		Auburn Ball signed by Tommy Tuberville: Harold Student II	
AFLAC Golf Basket: Tina Cosby			

As a result of our tremendous sponsors, our golfers who supported us at the tournament, our many raffles and sales, the staff here at DCBF/CWC and those who helped from other facilities Decatur CBF /CWC is going to be credited for donating : **\$4299.00 to the ADOC Employee support fund.**

Most importantly a good time was had by all who participated and money was raised for a great cause- our ADOC family in need. Thanks again to all who worked hard to make this happen, and to the other facilities a challenge is issued to beat Decatur's total!!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone back next year!!!!



## Sports Equipment Donated to the St. Clair C.F. Gym.

As our society becomes more health-conscious, there has been an increased focus on the importance of exercise. Many people exercise to control weight, improve conditioning, health and personal appearance. Exercise and stress management are also closely linked. Exercise can be an extremely effective stress reliever for several reasons.

Realizing this, the officers and support staff at St. Clair Correctional Facility began raising money, including a donation from Auburn University. The funds were used to provide equipment for a gym at a warehouse just outside the facility. Even with this equipment the St. Clair gym still needed additional free weights, enabling staff to complete a very valuable work out before, or after their shift.

Recently, the Sports-Plex, a local Birmingham gym in the Roebuck area, replaced their dumbbells with new state of the art weights. After learning about the need for equipment at St. Clair, local Sports-Plex staff motivated the management to donate the old iron weights to the facility. Sports-Plex management viewed the donation as a show of appreciation to the officers for providing security to our area.

"We are very appreciative to the staff of the Sports-Plex for this donation," said Warden David Wise. "I'd like to thank them for giving our officers and staff some much needed equipment to provide a means of stress relief in a very stressful profession."

The entire staff at St. Clair Correctional Facility sends a big THANK YOU to the Sports-Plex!



## Educational Outreach for Alabama Prisoners

Auburn University's Dr. Peggy Shippen is addressing the problem of widespread functional illiteracy among Alabama prison inmates. Studies indicate that released inmates who return to society lacking basic literacy skills are often unable to find employment and consequently are likely to be incarcerated again.

Dr. Shippen, a faculty member in the Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education, has organized an outreach project in collaboration with the Central Alabama Laubach Literacy Council, the Society of St. Dismas (a faith based organization), and the Alabama Department of Corrections. The program pairs inmate volunteer tutors who read above the seventh grade level with volunteer inmate students who are not yet reading at this level.

The goal of the effort is to increase the reading level of student participants to at least sixth grade level so that they will be qualified to enter a GED preparation program. The first step is to administer individual reading tests to determine reading skill levels. Those inmates who wish to be tutors and are qualified in the reading assessment are trained in the methods of an adult basic reading program. Then each is assigned to a student reading below sixth grade level. One-to-one tutoring sessions are arranged to meet twice weekly for 90 minutes at a time. Inmates, both students and tutors, are assessed every six months to measure reading growth. Once a student reaches the 6th grade target level, he receives a GED study guide as his "graduation present" and as an incentive for his next educational goal.

The program has been in place at Bibb Correctional Facility for a year and Elmore Correctional Facility began participation last April. More than 230 inmates have been assessed for placement as students or tutors. Auburn graduate students and volunteers from the faith based group assisted Dr. Shippen in administering the individual reading tests. About 100 of those tested are now actively participating as students or tutors.

According to Bibb Chaplain Eddie Smith, "There continues to be great interest in the program." There is a "waiting list of inmates who want to take advantage of the opportunity to participate. Warden Cheryl Price said, "We are pleased with the reading program's progress and what it adds to our educational efforts."

The inmate tutors have expressed enthusiasm about the chance to help others by sharing a skill during their time in prison and one described it as a "powerful experience".

# ADOC PICNIC

The 2008 ADOC Picnic was a great success, the food was good, the weather was hot but beautiful, and fun was had by all who attended. For those of you who were not able to attend we hope to see you next year at a new location to be determined at a later date.

Congratulations to the Limestone C. F. Stewards for winning the cookie bake-off.

Following are the winners of the sporting events, raffle drawings and door prizes:

## Door Prizes:

Jarvis Cain	T-Shirt
Elaine Johnson	T-Shirt
Georgia Jones	T-Shirt

## Basketball Tournament:

1st Place	Kilby C. F.
2nd Place	Bibb C. F.

## Softball Tournament:

1st Place	Draper C. F.
2nd Place	Bullock C. F.



## Fishing:

3rd Place	Willie Robinson	4 lb. 8 oz	\$25
2nd Place	Julius Butler	4 lb. 11 oz	\$50
1st Place	Percy May	5 lb. 12 oz	\$75
Special Prize	Curtis Powell	13 lb. 4 oz Carp	\$25

## 3 Point Shoot:

Winner	Rodrecius Miles
1st Runner Up	Michael Miles

Both winners are nephews of Norma Miles of the Montgomery WF

## Wal-Mart Gift Cards:

Daniel Collins	\$300
Kenneth Jones	\$300

## Wal-Mart Saves The Day

The Annual ADOC Picnic was, by all accounts, a great success. At one point during the picnic, while standing at a great vantage point, I looked around, turning a full 360 degrees, in order to see (as much as possible) what was going on at the Cattle Ranch at that precise moment. What I saw was: Two teams competing hard on the basketball court, while being cheered on by numerous spectators. A multitude of kids bouncing in the Moonwalk, playing in the Sandbox, throwing darts at balloons for prizes (small kids and teens), teens participating in the Tire Toss and Ring Toss, a large group of people of various ages enjoying Fishing and Bingo, lots of eating, and everyone having a great time. I then thought, "If this is the last Annual ADOC Picnic to be held at the Cattle Ranch, then this is the way it ought to be." If you missed all of the fun and excitement this year, hopefully, we'll see you there next year at the new, undisclosed location.

Some years ago, I sent out a nasty E-mail, trashing some rival teams and bruising some egos, while bragging on my teams and myself. This E-mail had the intended effect of creating interest in the Sporting Events and the unintended effect of firing up the rival teams to the point that they not only showed up, but beat me and my teams like my mama beat me that time she caught me trying to lift a quarter out of the collection plate in church (I still cringe when that plate is passed my way). After my defeat at that picnic years ago, I sent out an E-mail explaining that, since me and my teams did not live up to the hype, that I had to eat crow. Well, this year, after a well-conditioned, highly-skilled Kilby Basketball Team beat me and my Walk-ons like Buster Douglas beat Mike Tyson, I guess my meal will be Humble Pie. Their defense made me and my Walk-ons feel like Waffle House Hash Browns – scattered, smothered and covered! Congratulations to Kilby (1<sup>st</sup> Place - Basketball); Bibb (2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Basketball – excellent team), Draper (1<sup>st</sup> Place – Softball – again), and Bullock (2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Softball – they made me proud). Hats Off to the South Central CERT. They were very competitive and tenacious. I'm giving Kilby, Draper and Bibb fair warning: During the Picnic next year, I will ask the Commissioner to order that an Inmate Bed Roster Count be conducted at Kilby, Draper and Bibb, just to make sure that no unauthorized team members make their way to the Picnic. Testing for performance-enhancing drugs will be conducted. So there it is – I acknowledge that my team was annihilated this year at the Picnic. I would probably be depressed about it if it wasn't for one word that keeps popping up in my mind.....WAL\*MART!

Kenneth L. Jones

## Around the State Facility News

### ADOC CERT

I am pleased to announce that, effective immediately, Warden George Edwards will be the Assistant Coordinator for CERT.

Please render Warden Edwards your full support and cooperation.

James H. DeLoach  
Associate Commissioner

### ALEX CITY



Congratulations to Sergeant Michael Adair on his promotion to Correctional Lieutenant effective May 16, 2008 & receipt of his 15 year service pin.



Congratulations to Mrs. Audrey Kelley on her selection for Employee of the Quarter.



Congratulations to Officer William Thornton on his selection for Officer of the Quarter.



Congratulations to Sergeant Jerry

Odom on his selection for Supervisor of the Quarter & 15 year service pin.



Congratulations to Officer Ronnie Dillard, Job Placement Officer, on receiving his Service Pin for 15 years of service.



Warden James Carlton and staff are proud to announce that Captain William Miller and Lieutenant Michael Adair received the Top Gun award for their training class.



Congratulations to Lieutenant Earl Blake Turner on his Retirement for 25 years of service. He also received his 25 year service pin.



Warden James Carlton and the Alex City CBF staff would like to congratulate Officer Kevin Sasser on his retirement for 25 years of service with ADOC.

### BIRMINGHAM

February 22, 2008, Birmingham CBF had an Open House luncheon, which was enjoyed by the guests and staff, all who attended enjoyed the food and company of others as well.

On March 17, 2008, Birmingham CBF welcomed Correctional Officer Stanley Gordon to our staff.



On May 19, 2008, Birmingham CBF welcomes Cadet Skylar D. Carter to our staff.

Birmingham CBF had (2) Cadets to graduate from the Academy on April 8, 2008 Cadets Derrick Dent and William Elston. Cadet William Elston was transferred to William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility, upon his graduation.

Congratulations to Correctional Sergeant Mattie Heard, on her transfer to the SRP District 2 Program, effective April 22, 2008. Also congratulations to Correctional Sergeant Angela Miree, who was promoted from the SRP District 2 Program, to Lieutenant at Bibb Correctional Facility effective April 22, 2008.



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Kris Gortney to Birmingham CBF as the Maintenance and Repair Supervisor, his starting date is May 1, 2008, and thanks to the other candidates that interviewed for the position.

Birmingham CBF had the opportunity to have some UAT graduate students tour the facility on May 15, 2008.

Our GED instructor, Ms. Bevelle has been doing a great job with Birmingham CBF inmates, getting them

their GED Certificates. Birmingham CBF had seven (7) inmates to pass the test and five (5) attended the ceremony on May 15, 2008, at Lawson State Community College, the other two (2) had already EOS'ed or Paroled before the graduation.

Birmingham CBF would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Correctional Officer Michael Smitherman, from William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility, on his promotion to Correctional Sergeant here at Birmingham CBF, beginning May 16, 2008. Thanks to all the other Officers that interviewed for this position.

### BULLOCK CF



In January, Bullock County Correctional Facility began its Officer/Support Employee of the Quarter program. Supervisors from all departments submitted their nominations, for the first quarter, to the committee and the committee made the final decision. During the March Staff Meeting, the winners were announced. The Support Employee of the Quarter for the first Quarter is Ms. Michelle Wilson, Classification Specialist. The Officer of the Quarter for the First Quarter is Officer Artis James. Both employees were presented a certificate signed by the

Wardens and presented by Warden III Kenneth Jones. Both employees were also presented a watch bearing the ADOC symbol and Bullock County Correctional Facility inscribed on the face. The watches were an extra incentive provided by Captain Sylvester Nettles and Captain Henry Perkins. The Employee/Officer of the Quarter program had been inactive for some time at Bullock. However, it is now up and running. This is our way of thanking the employees for the job they do. Keep up the good work!!!



Pictured above: Ms. Michelle Wilson, Classification Specialist – Support Employee of the Quarter for the First Quarter (Jan- Mar) Officer Artis James, Correctional Officer (21 year veteran) – Officer of the Quarter for the First Quarter (Jan-Mar)



Congratulations were extended to Officer Timothy Scott (15 year veteran) on his promotion to Correctional Sergeant effective March 16, 2008.

Warden III Jones presented Officer Sara Smart with a plaque on April 22, 2008. Officer Smart's retirement from ADOC was effective May 1, 2008. We thank Officer Smart for her years of service and wish her well on her retirement.

During the April graduation ceremony at the academy, Bullock County Correctional Facility had five (5) Correctional Trainees to graduate. We

wish them good luck in their new jobs.



Bullock County Correctional Facility has implemented a competition entitled "Best of the Best". The Best of the Best Competition is a competition among the three shifts which has been active for the past four years. The shifts are graded on uniform inspections, number of call-ins, training scores and the number of inmate searches for a three-month period. The shift with the highest score wins the competition. The incentive for winning the competition is a dinner paid for by the institution and the shift that wins name will be displayed on the trophy that sits in the lobby of the institution. This quarter we congratulate Second Shift on winning "The Best of the Best." They were served and enjoyed a well prepared dinner. Keep up the good work!!!

As always, we would like to say thanks to all of our employees for the job you do!!!

## CAMDEN

Camden CBF would like to welcome back and congratulate Correctional Officers Edward Reynolds and Brent McGuffee. They each graduated the Academy on April 10, 2008. Officer Reynolds was the President of the class. He also received the Directors Award.

Congratulations to Officer Lee Cook for receiving Officer of the Quarter (January—March 2008).



CO Ronald Sigler was promoted to Sergeant effective June 1, 2008. He is pictured with Warden Nielsen as he receives his Sergeant strips and gold badge.

## CATTLE RANCH



Officer Robert Young accepting his 20 years of service pin from Warden Leon Bolling at Farquhar State Cattle Ranch

## CENTRAL OFFICE

The Central Classification Division is pleased to announce the promotions of Ms. Baggett and Ms. Latrice Greene to the positions of Classification Review Board Analysts. Please join us in congratulating and welcoming them to the Central Review Board effective this date.

Congratulations to David Smith of ADOC Central Accounting!!! David was informed yesterday that he has completed all the requirements for an MBA and will be graduating Saturday May 10th at 10am from Auburn University, Montgomery.

On behalf of Warden Steve Watson and the SRP Division:

Congratulations to Sergeant Sharon McSwain on her promotion to Lieutenant. Sergeant McSwain will be the Lieutenant for the District 2 Birmingham Area. Sergeant McSwain's effective date will be June 1, 2008.

Warden Watson would like to thank all the candidates that interviewed for the position. We wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

## DECATUR



Decatur CBF/CWC added 4 new supervisors to its management team, please join us in welcoming Lt. Willie Siler who transferred to us from Limestone CF, promoted were Lt. Jerry Meadows, Lt. Jeffrey Baldwin, and Sgt. Leo Hale. Congratulations to these supervisors. We also wish to recognize the following employees for their service:

Service Pins:

Correctional Officer Larry Jackson 10 years

Correctional Officer Timothy McDaniel 5 years

Correctional Officer Tommy Drake 25 years

Correctional Officer Darrel Hooks 5 years

Correctional Officer Bryan Smith 10 years

Drug Program Specialist Bo Cummings 10 years

Officers Geneice Crayton, Joe Thompson, Jeff Bradford, Brian Smith and Tommy Drake have been submitted for the Medal of Distinction during the Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Congratulations to all of these staff.

Please join us in congratulating Sergeant Jeffrey Baldwin on his selection to fill the Correctional Lieutenant slot and Officer Leo Hale on his selection to fill the Correctional Sergeant slot here at Decatur CBF. Both promotions are effective May 16, 2008. Sergeant Baldwin is a 19 year veteran of ADOC and Officer Hale has over 8 years of correctional experience. Again congratulations to both.

After interviewing many fine candidates for this position please join us in congratulating Correctional Sergeant Jerry Meadows on his selection to be promoted to Lieutenant at Decatur Community Based Facility effective April 16, 2008.

Also please join the rest of the staff here along with myself in warmly welcoming Lieutenant Willie Siler to the security team here as he transferred in to work with us at Decatur.

Both Lt. Siler and Lt. Meadows bring years of corrections experience and we are glad to have them both on board.

## DONALDSON

Congratulations to Correctional Officer Guy Davis in his promotion to Correctional Sergeant at William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility effective

tive April 1, 2008.

Please join us in congratulating Correctional Officer Michael Wheat in his promotion to Correctional Sergeant at William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility effective April 16, 2008. I would like to thank all candidates that interviewed for this position.



Warden Gordy presents Officer Ladarius Pickens with his five year service pen.



Warden Gordy presents Officer Paul Sanders with his five year service pen.



Warden Gordy presents Officer Johnny Lampley with his twenty-five year service pen.



Warden Gordy presents Sergeant James Dean with his five year service pen.



Captains McCord and Tew award Officer Guy Davis his insignias on his promotion to Sergeant.



Warden Gordy congratulates Sergeant Wallace Peterson on his promotion to Lieutenant. We wish to thank all the candidates that interviewed for this position and wish them well in their future endeavors with the Alabama Department of Corrections.



Warden Hetzel presents Officer Michael Wheat his certificate for promotion to Sergeant.



Warden Hetzel presents Electrician Supervisor Roscoe Hayden his certificate for promotion to Plant Maintenance Supervisor II.



Captain McCord presents Officer Nurissa Leggett with her certificate for Officer of the Quarter for Jan.-March 2008.



Warden Edwards presents Account Clerk Ebony Coleman with her certificate for Employee of the Quarter for Jan. - March 2008.



Warden Hetzel presents Officer Nathan Cash with his retirement plaque for 25 years of service.

On April 14, 2008, Graduation exercises were held for Lawson State students of Donaldson. Lawson State Officials advised it was one of the largest Commencement Exercises they had ever conducted with about 115 inmates participating. Radio Personality Shelly Stewart was the guest speaker and gave the Commencement address. Numerous guests from Lawson State and Donaldson Officials were in attendance.



Inmates in attendance of the Lawson State Graduation exercises held at Donaldson.



Warden Hetzel meets with Lawson State Officials during the graduation.

This quarter was a busy time for Institutional Tours for Donaldson. On April 16, a group of about 20 students from Samford University Criminal Justice classes received a tour of the institution. On April 17, a group of about 18 students from University of Alabama Birmingham received a tour of the institution. On May 15, a group of about 16 students from a criminal justice class at the University of Alabama main campus received a tour of the institution. All were complimentary of the staff and the stated the tour and QA session afterward was very informative. The institution even

received a request from a local High School for information regarding the institution and "prison life. To dispel any possible misunderstands, Warden Hetzel, Captain Tew, and Lt. Clark attended the Pleasant Grove High School Street Law class armed with many years of experience and a Power point presentation of the institution. The audience stated the presentation was interesting and informative and our staff enjoyed the opportunity to cast a positive light on the institution and all employees working here.

Other dates of note:

On March 27, 2008, staff attended a luncheon held at the Bright Star Restaurant in honor of Officer Bruce Willis' retirement.

On March 31, 2008, a Vipassana Meditation class began for selected inmates.

On April 10, 2008, ADOC Academy graduated a class of correctional officers, with Donaldson about 20 Correctional Officers.

On April 18, 2008, Lawson State Community College held a Job Fair on their campus. Donaldson Officials attended to encourage all to consider employment with the ADOC.

On April 22, 2008, ASEA representatives conducted a luncheon at Donaldson to recruit new members and to show their appreciation for present members.

On April 23, 2008, Donaldson conducted graduation exercises for SAP students.

On May 14, 2008, Karios provided a meal to all staff members in appreciation for the work they do.

## DRAPER



Officer Mathews receives his 5 year service pin from Capt. Larry Floyd.



Officer Conden Green receives

her 20 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Officer Edmond Cooper receives his 5 year pin from Capt. Larry Floyd.



Officer Richard Crooks receives his 25 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Officer Cleveland Jackson receives his 10 year service pin from Capt. Larry Floyd.



Warden Leeposey Daniels congratulates Chief Steward Oaklee Williams on his retirement.



Officer Michael Boozer receives his 10 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Officer Michael Moore receives his 20 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Warden Leeposey Daniels and Capt. Larry Floyd congratulate Officer Jerry Wyatt on his retirement after 25 years of service.



Steward III, Oaklee Williams receives his 15 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Warden Leeposey Daniels introduces Bridgett Tyner as Draper's new Classification Supervisor.

Warden Daniels would like to thank all the candidates that were interviewed and wish them well in their future endeavors.



Sgt. Timothy Logan is congratulated on his promotion to Lieutenant by Warden Leeposey Daniels. Warden

Daniels would like to thank all the candidates who were interviewed and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Again, CONGRATULATIONS!! Lt. Logan.



Dr. Gloria Thompkins receives her 20 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Officer Michael Shuford receives his 15 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.



Officer Ricky Woods receives his 10 year service pin from Capt. Larry Boyd.



Capt. Larry Floyd receives his 25 year service pin from Warden Leeposey Daniels.

Congratulations!! to Officer Bruce Hampton on his promotion to Correctional Sergeant at Draper Correctional Center effective June 1, 2008. Again, Congratulations Sgt. Hampton!

Warden Daniels would like to thanks all candidates that interviewed and with them well in their future endeavors.

## EASTERLING

### EMPLOYEE'S APPRECIATION DAY.

The Correctional Peace Officer's Foundation, along with Chaplain Askew and his Chapel Volunteers sponsored Easterling Employee's Appreciation Day on March 19, 2008. Drawings were held for prizes provided by local businesses, churches, chapel volunteers, and ASEA. Food was provided for all employees. We have had many appreciation days in the past but this year was UNIQUE! That's Right, UNIQUE! Thanks to a challenge by Warden Davenport, backed by Warden Boyd, we held our FIRST-EVER EASTERLING TALENT SHOW/IDOL CONTEST.



AND THE WINNER IS GRACE MALOY, ASAIL \* EASTERLING'S IDOL 2008.



### DECISIONS, DECISIONS



Judges for the First-Ever Easterling Idol Contest

Chaplain Whiting, Warden Foster, and Warden Giles tabulate the scores as Warden Boyd and the audience eagerly await their decision

### LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

Contestants: C.O. Brenda Verdell, C.O. Noah Richardson, C.O. James Sheppard, C.O. George E. Jones, Warden II Carter Davenport, ASAIL Linda Teal, ASAIL Grace Maloy, LT.



Mary Lee, C.O. Cleveland Ewing



## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Officer of the First Quarter 2008, Gerald Wagner; Supervisor of the Quarter, Business Manager Renae Nance; and Support Employee of the Quarter, Personnel Assistant Linda

## Wilkinson

Officers Graduating from the Academy: Kayla Albritton, Fredrick Grubbs, Larry Anglin, Rickey Cooper, and Cornelius Person  
**TAKE IT TO THE HOUSE!**

After 25 years of service to ADOC, Officer Cleveland Ewing decided to take an **EXTENDED VACATION!** A farewell reception was held on his last day, May 15, 2008 at ECF and a retirement party was held at Pike Fairgrounds on May 19, 2008.



## FAREWELL LUNCH.

On May 15, 2008, Several ECF employees joined Charlotte Wilson, Classification Specialist for a farewell lunch at Grandma's Kitchen in Brundidge. Ms. Wilson transferred to Montgomery Women's Facility after spending 10 years at Easterling. We will miss you!



## NATIONAL FITNESS DAY.

Are you 'fit-as-a-fiddle' or short on steam? An eager group of Easterling employees joined in to celebrate National Fitness Day on May 16, 2008. HOWEVER, it rained on our parade and we did not get to walk, but we did enjoy a "nutritious lunch" as we watched the rain. Of course "nutritious" means none of Ms. Flowers' delicious FUDGE was on the menu!



Easterling employees enjoyed a BBQ Lunch provided by the department in recognition of 1st Place contributions to the 2007 Combined Charities Campaign. Commissioner Allen was unable to join us but thanks to Kay Hope and Rosie Brisbon for bringing our lunch and joining us.



## ELBA

During the month of May we honored the Correctional Staff and Support Staff. They were honored with a barbeque lunch sponsored by

Warden Lillie Watson-Foster. Mrs. Foster was gracious enough to even serve those employees present.

Elba welcomed our recently hired Steward I; Mrs. Sherion Newby. Mrs. Newby brings with her over 20 years experience in the food service industry.

Mrs. Myra Peters; Business Manager was awarded Employee of the Quarter. Mrs. Peters work ethics, job knowledge, and dedicated service makes the job more productive and pleasant for all. She has worked diligently to convert to the new accounting system for payroll. Mrs. Peters has 15 years of experience with the ADOC. She is a pleasure to work with here at ECFB. Warden Foster presented Mrs. Peters a certificate for being selected Employee of the Quarter.

Officer Edward Sapp attended an STG Anti-gang seminar in Birmingham, Alabama sponsored by the Department of Justice. This seminar allowed for law enforcement officers to become more enlightened on identification for gang members and gang activity.

This quarter Elba had 03 inmates successfully obtain their GED under the instructions from ABE Program coordinator Mr. David Ashe, from Enterprise/Ozark Community College.



Warden Foster presenting employee of the qtr to Ms. Peters.



Warden Foster serving employees at employee appreciation day luncheon

## ELMORE

With the Holidays over it was time to settle in to the New Year and all the business going on at the Institution.

Again Elmore has lost a few members of our family but we have gained several new members who have come right in and made a big difference by adding to the great staff we have at Elmore.

CO John McGinty retired from the DOC after 25 years of service. John served in several capacities during his years with the DOC. Besides being a well respected CO by his peers, John was a Highway Road Squad Officer and was a triple award winner with the Alabama Police Pistol Association. John was always smiling and had a kind word to say to everyone. He will be missed but we wish him a long and healthy life and hope he catches lots of fish.

Sgt. Tanya Arrington transferred to I&I and was treated to a delicious going away breakfast. Canteen Manager Karen Rodgers, Plant Maintenance Worker Steven Majors and ASA II Karen Jackson also transferred to other agencies. Laundry Worker Elaster Jones left us to be a full time Minister at his Church in Troy. May God bless him in this endeavor.

Classification Specialist Supervisor Ashley Slatton transferred to Kilby and Classification Specialist Vivian McQueen was promoted to Classification Specialist Supervisor. Ms. McQueen was treated to lunch at the new Olive Garden in Prattville. Congratulations go out to Ms. McQueen from all of us at Elmore.

In spite of the loss of some we have welcomed several new members to our family. Jennifer Janes, who came to us from Donaldson and was promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Willie Burks from Camden and Sergeant Susan Clemons from East Thomas. Pam Woodham Account Clerk from the Draper Farm Office, Jessica Hathcock from Central Records, Rebecca Youngblood ASA I Classification, Sherri Reeves ASA I Shift Clerk and Roland Landry Plant Maintenance Worker. We also welcome CO Rex Green and CO Trainees Tamarra Pickett, Michael Bailey and Walter Green Jr.

Congratulations goes out to one of our own, Sgt. Jerome Person was promoted to Lieutenant and was given his Bars at our recent Staff Meeting. Awards were handed out to Lt. Charles Bromley, Supervisor of the Quarter, Richard Story, CO of the Quarter and Rita Hamm, Employee of the Quarter. They are all well deserving of this honor.

The Security Audit was held in March and things went really well. The Audit Team was impressed with the Kitchen and the Regional Laundry, both of which are under the supervision

of Chief Steward James Jones and Mr. Ralph Perkins, respectively.

There is some friendly competition going on at Elmore involving the Employee Disaster Relief Fund. Last quarter the ladies raffled off a beautiful Valentine Basket and well exceeded their goal. The men were challenged to do a fundraiser and rose to the occasion. Sadly, even though they raised a good amount of money on a delicious Spaghetti Lunch cooked by Drug Treatment Supervisor Joe Williams, and on the Raffle of a great Shotgun, they were unable to beat the ladies. The ladies are planning on a new Raffle and it will be the best yet, a Super Size raffle. Be looking for our notice to go out and make arrangements to buy your tickets. This is one raffle you will not want to miss. Sorry guys, you just need to work a little harder next time.



Lt. Charles Bromley, Supervisor Qtr., Rita Hamm, Employee Qtr., CO Richard Story, CO Qtr



Sgt. Jennifer Janes



Warden Thomas & Lt. Jerome Person



New Employees, Roland Landry, Rebecca Youngblood, Jessica

Hathcock, Sherri Reeves



Lt. Person & Sgt Burks

Sincerest congratulations are extended to Jerome Person on his promotion to the Correctional Lieutenant position at Elmore Correctional Center Effective April 16, 2008.

We commend Sgt. Person for a job well done.

We also thank the other fine candidates who interviewed and wish them well in their endeavors.

Sincerest congratulations are extended to Vivian McQueen on her promotion to the Classification Supervisor Position at Elmore Correctional Center Effective May 01, 2008.

We commend Mrs. McQueen for a job well done.

We also thank the other fine candidates who interviewed and wish them well in their endeavors.

### FOUNTAIN/J.O. DAVIS

We at Fountain would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new faces to our Fountain family.

On March 17, 2008, Mr. Donald Earnshaw joined us to work as a Psychological Associate.

Ms. Darlene Nolen joined us on March 24, 2008 as a Steward I.

Another welcome goes out to Ms. Valarese Preyer who will be an ASA II in the shift office.

Our mailroom will see a new face as we welcome Ms. Abigail Baity, ASA I who came to us on May 5, 2008.

We have quite a few new correctional officer trainees who have joined our staff. Kim Yarborough, Correctional Officer Trainee who joined us on 05/12/08; Kenny Moore, Correctional Officer Trainee came on 05/21/08; Sedgwick Champion, Correctional Officer Trainee on 05/19/08; Benjamin Davis, Correctional Officer Trainee on 05/01/08; Erica Rothchild, Correctional Officer Trainee on 03/25/08; Edward McQueen, Correctional Officer Trainee who transferred to from the Department of Transportation on 05/01/08; and Isaac Poindexter, Correctional Officer

came back to us on 05/01/08.

The Department is proud to congratulate Officer Diane Taylor for 15 years of service.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Officer James Brazwell for 10 years of service with the Department of Corrections; Officer James Brooks also has 10 years of service with our department.

Also congratulations are in order for Officer James Walker and Officer Derek Wilson for 5 years service with the Department of Corrections.

Thanks to all these officers for their dedicated service to the Department of Corrections.



Officer Diane Taylor - 15 years service



Officer James Brazwell - 10 years service



Officer James Walker - 5 years service

Congratulations to our own Mr. Michael Arnold on his promotion to Laundry Manager I. Mr. Arnold's promotion is effective today, 4-16-08

### HAMILTON A&I

We are pleased to announce the promotion of Officer Jody Shackelford to Correctional Sergeant at Hamilton Aged and Infirm effective April 16, 2008.

We would like to thank all the fine candidates that interviewed for this position and wish them all well in their future endeavors.

Please join our facility in congratulating Lieutenant Wade Kizzire, who has been selected to fill the vacant Correctional Captain Position at HAIC, effective May 16, 2008.

Many fine and well qualified applicants interviewed, and the decision was not an easy one. We would like to thank everyone who took their time to come in and interview for this vacancy.

### HAMILTON CBF

HCBF/HCWC would like to congratulate the following five people: Joshua Fleming, Brandon Robinson, Jerry Ray, Wesley Lawrence, and Jonathan Stidham, who graduated the ADOC Corrections Academy in April, 2008; with two returning to this Facility and, 3 receiving a six month assignment to Donaldson CF. HCBF/HCWC has one Correctional Officer Trainee, Brittney Ganey, who is currently attending the Second ADOC Corrections Academy Class of 2008. HCBF/HCWC would also like to welcome the following new Employees: Tim Smith, Correctional Officer who transferred to us from Bibb CF, effective 04-01-08; Scotty Shaffer, Correctional Officer who transferred to us from Limestone CF effective 05-01-08; and, Jesse McKay, Correctional Officer who transferred to us from Donaldson CF, effective 05-15-08.

HCBF/HCWC would also like to extend congratulations to Gary Williams, who was promoted to Correctional Sergeant effective May 16, 2008. Sgt. Williams fills the vacancy created with the retirement of former Correctional Sergeant Phillip Burrow, who retired from the ADOC effective April 01, 2008. We wish Sgt. Burrow the best in his retirement!

During the first of May, HCBF/HCWC moved the administration offices into the renovated Department of Transportation District Office Building, across the drive. The renovation created more office space for the administrative staff and was completed at minimal cost to the Department. We would like to thank DOC Information Systems for working extended hours in expediting movement of computer and telephone systems to minimize our down time. Renovation continues at the old administrative offices at HCBF/HCWC. A Dayroom for the inmates has been created making room for expansion

of inmate dormitories. The physical renovation of the new administrative building and the continuing renovation of our existing buildings has been almost entirely performed with utilizing labor of inmates assigned to this Facility. Our capacity has increased by 31 community custody inmates to 224; and, our minimum custody capacity stands at 54, for an overall capacity of 278 inmates.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Roy Hightower, for attending our last Supervisor Staff Meeting held on 05-14-08, and touring our recent renovations.



Please join our Facility in congratulating CO Gary Williams, who was chosen to fill the vacant Correctional Sergeant Position at HCBF/HCWC, effective 05-16-08.

Many fine and well qualified applicants interviewed, and the decision was not an easy one. We would like to thank everyone who took their time to come in and interview for this vacancy.

### HOLMAN

The following listed employees recently received service pins denoting their numerous years of service to the Department of Corrections.

CONGRATULATIONS! On Extended Years of Service:

Mark Capshaw, CO 20 Years

Ludella Cooper, CO 15 Years

Terry Montgomery, CO 10 Years

We would like to congratulate and welcome several new supervisors to the ranks here at Holman:



Alvin White was promoted from Sgt. at Fountain Corr. Facility to Lt. here at Holman. Lt. White was with us earlier, but had been promoted as a Sgt. to FCC. We are glad to get Lt. White back here at Holman and know he will be a great addition to our supervisory staff.

Warden Culliver pinning Lt. Bars on Lt. Alvin White



Anthony Williams was promoted to Sgt. and came to us from Easterling. We are confident that Sgt. Williams will be another asset to our supervisory staff.

Warden Culliver congratulates Sgt. Anthony Williams

We lost one of our most experienced supervisors when Lt. Willie Lewis was promoted to Captain at Mobile Work Release. We certainly hate to lose good supervisors, but we are glad to see one of our own succeed in their career. There is no doubt that Capt. Lewis will be a success wherever he is working.

We also welcomed several new employees. Kelvin Jones joined our team as a Steward I, and Erik Olson has joined the maintenance staff. Alexandria White and Antonio Coker are Cadets waiting for their chance

to attend the Academy in Selma. We have also added Deveron Betts who transferred in from the Florida Corrections System.

Seven Cadets graduated from the Selma Training Academy and are now back at Holman as Correctional Officers. Congratulations to Joshua Lassiter, William Smith, Christopher Flowers, Steven Livingston, John Wiley, Darralyn Penn, and Kelly Smith for successful completion of the Training Academy. We are expecting great things and many years of service from our newest Officers.



Officer Wayne James has decided to call it a career and retire after more than 26 years with the Department. Officer James has been a steady, dependable fixture on the Third Shift at Holman throughout his career. Holman and the Department are losing one of our most solid and professional employees as Officer James moves into another era of his life. We all wish him the best!

The refurbishing of Dorm B has been completed and inmates have been moved into the newly designed Dorm. The layout provides much better visibility for officers looking through the Dorm and also provides the inmates with a much better facility than what had been in place. Now, we have to work our way through the other Dorms to complete the renovation.

Please join our staff at W. C. Holman Correctional Facility Employees as we hold our second annual employee support golf tournament. The event will take place at the Atmore Country Club, Atmore, AL on June 27, 2008; beginning at 9:00 AM. The format will be a four man scramble. If you do not have a complete team, you will be placed on a team. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third place teams, with additional prizes for longest drive and closest to the pin. Entrance fees are \$60.00 per player and entrance forms can be obtained by contacting Holman Correctional Facility; 251-368-7909; Captain David Craft; Ext.312 or Ms. Renee Parker; Ext. 363.

**KILBY****PROMOTIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Congratulations are extended to Janet Hicks on her promotion to the Captain's position at Kilby Correctional Facility. Effective April 16, 2008

**LIMESTONE**

Limestone W.T. Self 25 yr. Service Pin



Limestone Robert Nichols 15 year Service Pin



Ricky Howard 5 year Service Pin Limestone



Warden Goode presenting 15 yr. service pin to COI Beverly Robinson



Lt. Wess Smith presenting 15 yr. service pin to COI Detra Campbell.



Lt. John Romine presenting 15 yr. service pin to COI Ricky Morgan

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Sergeant David Tolbert has been promoted to Lieutenant at Limestone Correctional Facility effective Wednesday, April 16, 2008.

We wish him the best in his new endeavors.

Congratulation to Officer Kenneth Pierce on his promotion to Sergeant at Limestone Correctional Facility.

Congratulations to K-9 Sergeants Paul Brown and Gary Mealer on their promotions to K-9 Lieutenants.

The promotion will be effective Monday, June 16, 2008.

Congratulations to Sergeant Edward Moore on his promotion to Lieutenant at Limestone Correctional Facility.

The promotion will be effective July 1, 2008.



Promotion of Sergeant David T. Tolbert to Lieutenant at Limestone Correctional Facility by Warden II Jimmy Patrick. Date: April 16, 2008

**LOXLEY**

At the end of our last newsletter reporting period, the Loxley CWC SAP program held its first graduation for the 2008 year. Graduation was held on February 29, 2008 with 23 inmates graduating the program. Mr. Roy Pendleton, Aftercare Counselor at Loxley was the keynote speaker for the event, and Lt. Randall White and Mr. Charles Robitaille gave the closing remarks.



During our March staff meeting, two of our Correctional Officers received 5-year service pins. Warden Reynolds is pictured below presenting the service pins to COI Kenneth Tyus, and COI Brian Jenkins. Congratulations to them both for their dedication and service.



On April 18, 2008, the Loxley New Way of Life Aftercare Program held its annual Instructors/Helpers Picnic. Keynote speakers for the event were Mr. Kevin Canon and Ms. Joyce Morrisette, and of course, Warden Reynolds was on hand for the closing remarks.



On April 23, 2008, Ms. Rosemary Robinson, Classification Specialist here at Loxley, was chosen as the Employee of the Quarter. Congratulations on a

job well done.



On April 10, 2008, two of our cadets graduated from the Academy in Selma and have started assignments on their respective shifts. Congratulations and welcome to Officers Keeyon Newton and Paul Demeree. They are a very much needed addition to our staff.



Finally, on May 9, the Loxley New Way of Life SAP Program had its second graduation for the 2008 year. Keynote speaker for the event was Mr. David Green of the Mobile Community Corrections Program. Warden Reynolds and Mr. Robitaille gave the closing remarks to the 22 graduates.



Loxley CWC would like to congratulate Lt. Carl Clay of Kilby on his promotion to fill the vacancy of Correctional Captain at Loxley CWC, effective 6-23-08

Thanks to all the fine candidates that interviewed.

**MOBILE**

Mobile Community Based Facility would like for you to join us in congratulating Captain Willie Lewis on his promotion. Captain Lewis

transferred to Mobile Community Based Facility from Holman on May 1, 2008. We would also like to welcome Officer Anglina Simpson who also joined us on May 1. Officer Simpson transferred to us from Fountain Correctional Center.



Mobile Community Based Facility also has a few new ADOC employees that we would like to introduce, Cadet Edward Barker 2/1/08, Cadet Bernard Jones 3/3/08, and Cadet Chris Thompson 4/1/08. Welcome to M.C.B.F.!!

On May 1, 2008 Mobile Community Based Facility celebrated Officers Appreciation Day and welcomed the newest members of our staff with lunch from Sonny's BBQ, provided by Warden Kieff Lambert. It took much time and planning, but it all came together and turned out to be a wonderful experience for the Mobile Community Based Facility Staff members.



We would also like to congratulate Sgt. Barry Dunning for 15 years of hard work and dedication. Warden Lambert issued Sgt. Dunning his 15 year service pin on May 1, 2008. Congratulations Sgt. Dunning and keep up the good work!



Please join us in congratulating Lt. Willie Lewis in his promotion to Correctional Captain at Mobile Community Based Facility effective 4/16/2008.

I would like to thank all the candidates who interviewed and expressed interest in this position.

### **MONTGOMERY WOMEN'S FACILITY**

The employees at the Montgomery Women's Facility would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new employees:

22-April-08 Correctional Officer Tyronne Hurt (rehire)

01-May-08 Correctional Lieutenant Brenda Marcus-transferred in from Bullock County Correctional Facility

16-May-08 Classification Specialist Charlotte Wilson-transferred in from Easterling Correctional Facility

19-May-08 Correctional Sergeant Wanda Jones-transferred in from Tutwiler Prison for Women.



We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Correctional Officer Marcus Williams, Rose Snow and Latoya Johnson on graduating from the Academy Class 2008-01

Cadet Marcus Daniel Jr. is currently attending the Correctional Academy in Selma.

18-May-08 Cadet Darryl Finch and Cadet Karla Christian are currently attending the Lateral Entry Course in Selma.

We would also like to take the opportunity to recognize employees who has excelled during the last quarter and they have been selected as Employees of the Quarter:

Supervisor of the Quarter: Correctional Sergeant Vivian Blakely

Sergeant Vivian Blakely exhibits a very pleasant attitude, and she has proven herself able to work with the minimal amount of supervision. Her outstanding professional demeanor, which she exhibits on a daily basis, merits her being nominated for this esteem honor. Her willingness to get the job done, and to get the job done right the first time, further merits why she should be recognized with this honor. Sergeant Blakely is a self-starter. She accepts constructive criticism well. She frequently makes suggestions on various ways in which the shift can run more smoothly and efficiently. Sergeant Blakely is truly an asset to MWF and the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Officer of the Quarter: Correctional Officer Georgia Sharpe

Correctional Officer Georgia Sharpe is a consistent and dedicated employee at the Montgomery Women's Facility. Officer Sharpe exhibits a very pleasant and professional attitude when dealing with co-workers and inmates. Officer Sharpe responds promptly to instructions and she can always be counted upon to complete any given task with little or no supervision. Officer Sharpe is a team player and she is willing to assist with any task to ensure that security, custody, and control of inmates are maintained. Officer Sharpe truly represents Montgomery Women's Facility and the Alabama Department of Corrections with the utmost pride.

Support Person of the Quarter: Ms. Roberta Crenshaw, Mental Health Technician

Ms. Crenshaw has performed her results and responsibilities in a manner which exhibits true dedication to the facility. Ms. Crenshaw's primary

responsibility is to coordinate and supervise all calendar events at the Montgomery Women's Facility. She ensures that various programs and outside instructors are available to assist the inmates with various topics related to re-entering back into society. Ms. Crenshaw is over the Re-Entry Program for the facility and she spends a lot of time coordinating and organizing the program to ensure that it meets the expectations of the Central Office. Ms. Crenshaw directs and instructs various classes/courses to the inmate population at the facility and she ensures that the courses are beneficial to the inmates' recovery. She is an asset to the Montgomery Women's Facility and to the Alabama Department of Correction.

### **RED EAGLE**



Correctional Officer Tim Adamson retired from Red Eagle, effective March 31, 2008 after 25 years of service. (pictured above)

Red Eagle now has four trainees: Evelyn Surles, Bobby Arnold, Delricus Pittman and Myron Chappell.

Aletha Lewis is Red Eagle's Re-entry Program Coordinator. She is working with local agencies for program implementation in the near future.

ACI hosted a breakfast at Bonnie Crest Country Club for REHF personnel who work closely with job placement.

We now have a new Correctional Officer rehire, Dectrick Wright, formerly of Draper Correctional Facility.

CO Chase Hornsby graduated from the Academy on April 10, 2008.

Red Eagle Honor Farm had a 100% inventory from the Property Division with no discrepancies.

Congratulations to Terence Robinson, Account Clerk, on earning his BS degree in Accounting from Alabama State University.

The K-9 Handler's meeting was conducted at Red Eagle Honor Farm.

### **ST. CLAIR**

Relay For Life

Recognition is extended to "Pretty Plus" one of the 2008 Relay For Life

Teams of Urban Birmingham. Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity and is the largest community fundraiser in the world. It is a unique event that offers everyone in a community the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported and that one-day cancer will be eliminated.

Relay For Life events are 12 to 24 hours in length and go overnight. Teams of twelve to fifteen people camp out and take turns walking around a track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event.

Because Relay For Life is a community gathering, rather than an athletic event, anyone and everyone can participate. Teams form from businesses, clubs, families, friends, hospitals, churches, schools and service organizations. These individuals all share a common purpose – their desire to fight cancer and their support of the American Cancer Society's mission.

One of the teams for Relay For Life was composed of employees from St. Clair Correctional Facility. Pictured from left to right: Mary C. Carter, Warden II, Correctional Officers Edna Byers, Mamie George, LaTonya Scott (Team Leader), Carolyn O'Brian and Shunmika Williams, ASA II. Squatting (left to right), Correctional Officer Beverly Warren and Carol Stamps ASA I. We are happy to acknowledge the hard work of this team in their fund raising efforts. In the race against cancer there is no finish line until we find a cure.

St. Clair Correctional Facility is extremely proud of its employees that participated in the fifth annual golf tournament benefiting the ADOC Employee Support Fund. Our team consisting of Correctional Officers, Frank Mickens, Rodney Bell and son and Captain James Holt.

Congratulations to Jean Gortney, Custodial Worker and Kenneth Peters, Correctional Lieutenant for being selected employees of the quarter. This acknowledgement was recognized with an well-attended luncheon at Red Lobster in Gadsden, Alabama.

St. Clair Correctional Facility is pleased to acknowledge their new Correctional Officers Trainees: Marcellas Mostella, Donald Lukima,

Brandon Landers, Antwan Kendrick, Keith Cunningham, William Battersby, George Catling, Johnny Chergotakas.

Congratulations to the following employees in recognition of receipt of their service pins: Fredrick Washington, twenty years (20), Jared Griffin, ten (10) years; Samuel Harris, ten (10) years; Craig Lesley, five (5) years; and Christopher Lind, five (5) years.

St. Clair Correctional Facility continues to remember in prayer our activated Correctional Personnel: Andre Burnett, Anthony Cook, Donald Scott, Michael K. Lindsey and Albert Collier.

Hats off to Tywana Baker on being promoted to Steward II at St. Clair Correctional Facility.

St. Clair Correctional Facility would like to congratulate and welcome the recent academy graduates on April 10, 2008: Stanley Parker, Robert Price, West Mathis, Ricky Fuller, Roy Huie, Brian Phelps, Jonathan Walker, Guy Frondorf, Trent Branca, and Derek Broyles. COT's Branca and Broyles volunteered to participate in the six- (6) month's program at William Donaldson Correctional Facility.

The best of well wishes to recently retired James Beck (Maintenance) with ten (10) years and Thomas Sorrow, Correctional Officer with twenty-five (25) years. A retirement luncheon was held on St. Clair Correctional Facility visitation yard for Officer Sorrow.

## STATON

On March 21st, five employees were awarded Services Pins marking mile stones in their careers:

Officer Mustafa Muhammad received his 30 year pin.

Lieutenant Jerry Chavis received his 15 year pin.

Steward Patti Young received her 10 year pin.

Officer Shayla Jones received her 5 year pin.

Officer Dwane Caldwell received his 5 year pin.

On April 1st Kahdra Thomas was promoted to Sergeant at Staton. Sgt. Thomas was assigned to the Montgomery Women's Facility before her promotion. She had also worked at Kilby during her career.

On April 10th, Staton welcomed Correctional Officers Jeffery Faire, Larry Managan, Jerome Purter and Henry Guice, back from the Correctional Academy.

Congratulations to:  
Supervisor of the Quarter, Sergeant Reosha Butler

Officer of the Quarter, Officer Keith Braswell

Employee of the Quarter, Vilanthes Lawrence

Honorable Mentions go to:  
Supervisor, Sergeant Marcus Sanford  
Officer, Officer Donald Moore  
Employee, Cassandra Edwards



Captain Richard Boyd with Warden Barrett



Captain Eddie Browning with Warden Barrett

On April 16th, Staton welcomed our new Captains!

Captain Richard Boyd comes to us from the Montgomery Women's Facility where he served as the First Shift Lieutenant.

Captain Eddie Browning was our own Second Shift Lieutenant.

On April 21st, ASA I, Ms. Susan Means joined the Business Office Staff at Staton.

On April 29th, ASA I, Tina Woods became the Second Shift Clerk at Staton.

On April 30th, Staton held a Retirement Luncheon to say "FAIR WELL" to:



Alberta Reid

Ellis Webster



John Hunter

Sidney James

On May 1st, Ms. Jacqueline McGhee joined the Classification Team as a Specialist. Ms. McGhee was an Officer at Tutwiler before transferring to Staton Classification.

On May 12th, LaTasha Carter joined the Business Office Staff at Staton.



At this year's annual Walk of Life, to benefit the Joy to Life Foundation, I had the pleasure of meeting another fellow breast cancer survivor who also happens to be a fellow ADOC employee. Elizabeth Glasgow is a correctional officer trainee who is currently at the academy, assigned to Staton CF. Elizabeth was kind enough to forward these photos of the two of us that were taken the day of the walk.

There is no question that Elizabeth and I are just two of - sadly - numerous ADOC employees who have either fought and survived breast cancer or are currently fighting it.

Thank you,  
Anne Adams  
Special Counsel to the Commissioner

## TRAINING DIVISION

Please join me in congratulating Sergeant Camelia Cargle [Ventress CF] on her selection for the vacant PREA Regional Coordinator position in Bullock County. Her effective date of transfer will be April 16th, 2008.

Sergeant Cargle has been employed with the ADOC for over 14 years. She has worked at Ventress CF, Bullock County CF, Easterling CF and Tutwiler CF. She was promoted to Sergeant at Draper CF in August of 2002. Sergeant Cargle has attended Draughn Junior College in Montgomery and she will bring many years of experience, education and training to the ADOC Training Division.

Again, Congratulations Sergeant Cargle and good luck in your new position!

Please join me in congratulating Officer Bradley Carpenter [WEDCF] on his selection for transfer to the Alabama Corrections Academy in Selma. His effective date of transfer will be April 16th, 2008.

Officer Carpenter has been with the ADOC since January 2007, graduating from the Academy in August. He was ranked 7th in his class academically, out of 76 Trainees. He was a great asset to his Academy Class and to the Academy Staff during his basic training.

We had a lot of great Correctional Officers to interview for this position and the decision was definitely a difficult one. I would like to thank all the Correctional Officers that interviewed for their interest in the Training Division.

Again, congratulations Officer Carpenter and welcome to the Training Division – good luck in your new position!

## TUTWILER

Watching out my office window as the preparations for the Employee Appreciation Day took place made my mouth water. Newly employed Tutwiler kitchen employee, Kevin Smith, Cook I, was master of the biggest grill I have ever seen. The supervisors set up everything, tables, chairs, food, EVERYTHING. The event was well attended. Door prizes were given and a great time was had by all. We were well fed from the vending company-MAC's Vending of Wetumpka-providing the refreshments. A very good time of food, fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Kevin Smith, Cook I is not the only new face around Tutwiler. Tutwiler family welcomes a new position and a new face with the position. To help inmates with re-entry, a Senior Social Worker position was established, and Ms. Shayla Haynes was selected to fill the position. Ms. Haynes brings enthusiasm and fresh ideas to Tutwiler. Wanda Jones, Correctional Sergeant, transferred to Montgomery Women's Facility in May. Sgt. Jones will be missed at Tutwiler. Cynthia Steele, Canteen Worker, also transferred to Montgomery Women's Facility. Ms. Steele will be missed and the Tutwiler

family welcomes Ms. Terri Beers to fill the void in the canteen. Several Correctional Trainees have been recruited by Tutwiler. The trainees are: Markell Davis, John Ingram, Antonio Jordan, Gary Kelly, and Darris McCord and are all working hard and learning fast. All the trainees look forward to the next Academy Class. The previous class graduated Michael Nelson, Correctional Officer. Officer Nelson was welcomed back and joined the third shift. Warden Albright has a new secretary as well. Tutwiler welcomed Ms. Sheniquea Jackson to the family. Ms. Jackson promoted to Administrative Support Assistant III from Department of Transportation.

Special recognition was given to Support Employee of the Quarter: Robert Emmons, Grounds Worker at Tutwiler's monthly staff meeting. Mr. Emmons heads up an ever changing crew of female inmates and ensures the grounds look neat, tidy and pleasing at all times. Hats off to Mr. Emmons! Wesley Whatley, Correctional Officer was awarded Officer of the Quarter. Officer Whatley is the current visitation officer at Tutwiler. Thanks to Officer Whatley for his dedication level and professionalism.

As always, Warden Albright welcomes all Security Personnel from other facilities to apply to work overtime at Tutwiler. Please ensure you have your Warden's permission and contact Tutwiler for more details.



Wesley Whatley, Correctional Officer, Officer of the Quarter, Second Quarter 2008



Mr. Robert Emmons, Grounds Worker, Support Employee of the Quarter, Second Quarter 2008

## VENTRESS

CONGRATULATIONS to our "own" Mary Taylor on being promoted to Correctional Captain at Ventress. We are proud of you!!!!



CONGRATULATIONS to our own, Annette Flowers on being promoted to Steward II.



Ventress would like to welcome Mr. Billy Faulk as our new Maintenance & Repair Supervisor. We also welcome Ms. Mary Owen as our new Classification Specialist.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES to Sgt. Camelia Cargle on being selected to fill the vacant PREA Sergeant Position for Bullock/Barbour Counties. We will miss you but wish you the best.

Ventress would like to welcome our two graduates from the Academy awaiting their promotion to Correctional Officer: Malcolm Scott and Joseph Thomas. We are proud of you.

Ventress is proud to have Cadet Matthew Davidson and Cadet Shea McGhee at the Academy during this time.

Ventress would like to welcome the following new CMS employees: Coy Flenory, R.N., Vickie Farley, R.N., Amber Harper, LPN, Linda Ewing, R.N. transferred from Easterling to Ventress, Quinsheita Rivers, LPN.

Ventress does not want to forget our officers on Active Duty fighting for our freedom: Correctional Officer's Robert Merritt, Degraphary Richardson and John McKinnon.

Ventress would like to welcome back Correctional Officer Lizzie McLeod from her tour of Active Duty. We are happy that you are safe and back with us Officer McLeod.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Correctional Canine Handler Supervisor, Travis Campbell on his retirement after 25 years of Corrections Service effective June 1st, 2008. We wish him much success in his retirement and future endeavors.

Congratulations to the following dedicated employees receiving service pins for their milestones with the Alabama Department of Corrections:

Paul Costello	5 years
Charles Hall	5 years
Earl Savage	10 years
Daniel Rieben	15 years
Wendell McCray	10 years
Willie Brinson	10 years
David Kennedy	5 years



Congratulations to Officer Dell Smedley on receiving his 10-year service pin.



Congratulations to Officer Wendell McCray on receiving his 10 year service pin.



Congratulations to Officer Mark Kelley, Drug Testing Officer on receiving his 25 Year Service Pin. Officer Kelley is leaving Ventress effective June 1st to go to Elba Work Release. Officer Kelley we will truly miss you but we wish you the best!!!

Ventress welcomes our new cadet, Jose Jimenez.

## Men at Kilby Help St. Jude's with Homemade Quilts.

*Over 100 quilts were made and donated to help area children by inmates at Kilby CF. Pictured Warden Cummins, Sam Palamonia (St. Jude's Exceptional Children's Center) and Dallas Simmons (Related article on page 6)*



### Exciting Times For Alabama's Prison Reentry Programs

By: Kerri Pruitt, Executive Director – The Dannon Project

**Reentry** – the new buzz word across the nation for the correctional community, offenders, and their families.

I'm so excited to see the process of reentry gain popularity and even more excited to see correctional agencies, state and federal agencies alike, as well as faith and community based programs finally join hands around the table to seriously discuss barriers to successful reentry in our various communities and even go a step further – create, explore and develop real solutions for a real problem in Alabama. The State of Alabama most recently developed a statewide committee to come together and discuss issues such as these. This, I believe, will propel Alabama to the next level of reducing crime and recidivism rates across the state simultaneously. Certainly, these are exciting times in our state.

Those of us having been a part of Reentry movement before it became "popular" know the recidivism statistics in Alabama compared to the national rates; and, we already know that without some interventions (i.e., financial, technology) for some of the smaller existing community based programs, it could potentially get worse, in part due to the large group of ex offenders expected to be released soon from prisons across the state because of a recent law that was passed regarding drug sentencing disparities. Most recently, new, larger programs have been created statewide to accommodate the massive numbers of offenders due to be released in the near future. The majority of these programs offer assistance with employment, mentors, and job training as well as other much needed transitional services. This certainly helps to minimize barriers to successful reentry. More programs in more Alabama communities should equate to reduced recidivism rates and lower crime rates across the State which is a win-win solution for everyone. However, the question looms – what will happen to the existing smaller FBCO's providing reentry services across Alabama? Can the smaller existing programs survive? Should they survive? How will Alabama tie all of these programs together to ensure that comprehensive services are still available and not duplicated with the newer programs coming on board?

I think this new statewide committee (comprised of correctional community staff, faith and community based staff, as well as other state and federal representatives) will help to address these questions and possibly report solutions on how we can all work together. However, for now, I think we have finally entered into an era where we have the right ingredients to become a model for the nation on crime prevention, crime and recidivism reduction. We have an ambitious and hard-working State Reentry Coordinator, a Governor that made reentry a priority, very dedicated hard-working correctional staff statewide as well as great reentry programs statewide (both new and existing). At the end of the day, who wins? *Everyone*. If we will continue to work together for a common unified goal (reduced crime and ex offenders not returning to prison), we all become the winners!

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